

## The West Virginian

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## THE POSTMASTERSHIP.

Is the appointment of Chas. E. Manley as postmaster at Fairmont the consummation of the "frameup"—that the Times complained about some time ago? Or has the slate been broken to reward Mr. Manley for heroic party service rendered at the notorious court house precinct at the last election? Personally Mr. Manley is very courteous and a clever gentleman, and it matters very little to the public who holds the seal of postmaster at Fairmont or any other town where the office is large enough to employ sufficient help to transact the business. A postmastership is a gracious gift by the politicians, as the man who holds the job has nothing to do except to draw his salary. This is said without any political bearing, for postmasters have drawn these salaries under Republican administrations and Democratic administrations alike. It is estimated that the government could save at least four million dollars a year by doing away with the office of postmaster altogether. The organization would be just as efficient, and the service just as good, and when the postmaster becomes extremely partisan or is traitorous to his own party, the service to his enemies is sometimes made very bad indeed. The postoffice is often used as a partisan political bureau for the purpose of censoring the mail and giving tips to a political enemy that are invaluable during political campaigns. But since this office is to be a gift of the people for party service, there are many other Democrats in Fairmont who had applications in for this job, who are as well qualified and who have as strong claims upon the Democratic party for the place. Clyde S. Holt has been a faithful party worker and an attempt was made to get him out of the way for the post office job by giving him the nomination for county commissioner, but Mr. Holt was too wise to be sidetracked in this manner and it became necessary to put the merciless steam roller over him to get him out of the way. There are a number of other deserving Democrats who will feel the pressure of the roller to an equal extent and they are Mr. J. Fay Watson, Frank A. Lloyd and others, but none of these men has the honor (?) of siding at the notorious court house precinct on the 3rd of last November when the registration on the Democratic side was padded and lost (?) before the returns were sent back to the Clerk's office, where the forgers were openly bought and where the Sheriff's office was used in a very suspicious manner, and where the most corrupt voting ever done in the county was one of the features of the election that has given Marion county the name abroad and at home of being the most corrupt county in the United States.

Another avowed candidate for the postmastership was J. Walter Barnes and he was taken out of the way by placing him on the city pay roll to draw \$2,000 per year, while he attended to the business of the Consolidated Telephone Company as manager, surely an expensive way of clearing the path for Mr. Manley, at the expense of the taxpayers of Fairmont. Arthur G. Martin was another candidate for the place and his following was so strong that the office holders' trust had to give him the County Clerkship to further grease the skids for the rank and file of applicants who are now being sent down

the political boggyland pell-mell to mingle once more with the private citizens where they can nurse their bruises and forget that they ever had any political aspirations—especially as far as the appointing power is concerned, and through the thin veil of empty promises, dashed hopes and humiliation we see the brutal hand of the boss rewarding a professional politician for services rendered.

President Wilson, in one or two instances, especially at Kansas City, ignored the Congressman's recommendation for the postmastership and appointed a man known for his fitness and qualifications for the office and unknown as part of the political machine which opposed him.

Mr. Manley is part owner of the Times, and that publication, while very bitter towards Mr. Neely for personal reasons, has no right to complain since one of its owners has the best paying position in the state, that of U. S. Marshal, and now another one has secured one of the best paying postoffices in the state. But it is pretty well understood that this appointment does not meet with the approval of at least one of the sub-editors of the Times and there's a reason.

Taking the situation all in all it leaves Mr. Neely's fences in a badly broken condition and whether he will be able to get them built up before another Congressional election comes around is yet to be seen.

While Great Britain is now involved in the greatest conflict of the centuries and the plans for an elaborate observance of the Anglo-American peace centenary have necessarily been abandoned, the British people and their American cousins will not permit Thursday to pass without some recognition of the tremendous and far reaching importance of that peace pact signed on December 24, 1814. The city of Ghent, in war shattered Belgium, was the scene of the signing of the compact which ushered in a century of peace between the English speaking peoples. Ghent had planned to observe the event with striking ceremonies, to which distinguished men from the United States and all parts of the British empire had been invited, but the events of the last few months have driven all thought of peace celebrations from the minds of Belgians.

Envy, jealousy, old antagonisms surviving from past quarrels, fierce disputes which on several occasions threatened to culminate in a conflict, have marred but not broken the peace which has endured for a century. Within the last decade, however, practically all differences have been amicably settled, and the "hands across the seas" movement have been so strengthened that now it seems impossible that England and the United States could ever again engage in war.

In the negotiations at Ghent a century ago Great Britain was represented by Gambia, Gouldburn and William Adams, while the United States commissioners were Bayard, Clay, John Quincy Adams, Russell and Gallatin. Their deliberations continued through several months, and it was not until Washington officialdom was frightened by the threatening attitude of New England, and Great Britain was facing the possibility of another European war that they reached an agreement. The original instructions of President Adams were to insist upon the northwestern states threatening secession the President and his Secretary of State became willing and eager to make concessions. The British commissioners were instructed to meet the Americans half way, and so a treaty was signed as a Christmas gift to the warring peoples. Practically speaking the treaty settled nothing, and all the bloodshed and waste of treasure had been for nothing.

"It is a blanket I will sign it or not," said Henry Clay on the day before the ratification of the document, but after a night of reflection he was brought to the agreement of his colleagues.

While the treaty itself was indefinite, some citably important provisions grow out of it. In 1817 the London and Washington governments agreed that all armed vessels on the Great Lakes should be dismantled and no more built. This agreement was to be binding until six months' notice was given by either power, and although the understanding effected by the British minister to the United States and the American Secretary of State was never formally ratified either by Congress or Parliament, it has become an all binding power of a permanent treaty. When the agreement was entered into both Canada and the United States had large vessels under construction on the Lakes, but these were consigned to purposes of peace and commerce, and the inland seas have ever since been free of vessels of war.

From 1814 until 1898 there was scarcely a decade without some quarrel between Great Britain and the United States, and during that period war between the powers was always possible, although seldom at all probable. Strangely enough, Anglo-American friendship was cemented by the war, for it was the friendly attitude of the British government toward the United States during the war with Spain that practically ended the American hostility to Britain. The attitude of Germany in the same war was doubtless also responsible, to no small extent, for the widespread American hostility toward the Kaiser's government in the present crisis. It is perhaps too much to say in the light of recent events that war between Great Britain and the United States has become impossible, but it is assuredly to be numbered among those things which are highly and wildly improbable.

where armed forces faced each other in the disputed territory. The controversy over the Oregon boundary which produced the American belligerency of "Fifty-four or fight" was not settled until both sides seemed to be on the point of an appeal to force.

The Alabama claims, the Fenian raids into Canada, and other minor disputes, marred Anglo-American peace at a later period, and in 1895 the Venezuela incident set the two nations by the ears. Yet, in spite of all the toast of John Quincy Adams was realized: "Ghent, the city of peace; may the gates of the Temple of Janus, here closed, not be opened again for a century."

## WHO'S WHO IN THE WAR.

(Lord Fisher.)

John Arbuthnot Fisher, first Baron of Kilverstone, who became first sea lord of the British navy in October, succeeding Prince Louis of Battenberg, is a veteran of 73 years of age. Not long ago he celebrated his 60th anniversary of the beginning of his naval career. He was born in 1841, the son of Capt. William Fisher of the 78th Highlanders, and entered the navy in 1854, when dreadnoughts and submarines were undreamed of and steam warships were still something of a novelty. He was only a lad when he had his first taste of real war in the Crimean conflict. Later he served in the Chinese waters and took part in the conflict which was rendered memorable by the assistance given to the hard pressed British vessels by an American naval officer, who later explained his action by saying that "blood is thicker than water." With the passing of the years Fisher won a reputation as one of the ablest of British naval commanders, and in 1904 became the first sea lord of the admiralty. In 1909 he was created a Baron, and the following year he retired, only to be recalled by popular demand when England faced its most terrible war. As first sea lord from 1904 to 1910, Lord Fisher completely reorganized the navy, his policy being to send old ships to the scrap heap and to increase the fleet constantly with the most modern type of war vessels. In 1908 Lord Fisher and Lord Charles Beresford engaged in a bitter controversy which ended only when Beresford was eliminated from the admiralty. Lord Fisher visited America four years ago to attend the wedding of his son in Philadelphia, and on that occasion paid many graceful compliments to the American people in the first interviews he had ever given to newspaper reporters. Although a warrior by profession, Lord Fisher has been prominent in the peace movement, and in 1899 was a delegate to the peace conference at The Hague.

## SEISMOLOGY.

The founder of the science of seismology, which treats of earthquakes, was John Winthrop, a descendant of the first governor of Massachusetts. Today marks the bi-centenary of the distinguished scientist, as he was born in Boston December 19, 1714. He graduated from Harvard, and was professor of mathematics and natural philosophy at that college from 1873 until his death in 1799. He accomplished great work in astronomy and other branches of mathematical science, and his studies as to the causes of earthquakes, elaborated in his "Lecture on Earthquakes," marked the beginning of seismology. He headed the first purely scientific expedition ever sent out by an American state when, in 1761, he went to St. John's, Newfoundland, in a vessel of the colonial service, to make observations of the transit of Venus. Winthrop won world wide recognition as a scientist, and he was elected to membership in the Royal Society of London and awarded a degree by the University of Edinburgh.

## CENTENARY OF E. M. STANTON, LINCOLN'S SECRETARY OF WAR.

The highly important post of Secretary of War during the most terrible conflict in American history was held by Edwin McMasters Stanton, whose centenary will be celebrated today. The distinguished statesman who was Lincoln's right hand man in the conduct of the greatest civil war of modern times was born December 19, 1814, in Steubenville, Ohio. Kenyon College was his alma mater, from which he graduated in 1833. For many years he practiced law in his native state, and gradually attained a national reputation.

It was in 1860, when the administration of President James Buchanan was drawing to a close, that Stanton was appointed Attorney General of the United States. The republic was trembling on the verge of civil strife. John Brown had made his raid and paid the penalty with his life. President Buchanan, adopting an attitude of conciliation, has asserted that the South had no legal right to secede, and that the Washington government had no power to prevent secession.

When Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated and the terrible war was on in grim and deadly earnest, Stanton was called upon to assume the portfolio of Secretary of War. He succeeded Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania. Lincoln had had many difficulties with his war office, but with Stanton in charge affairs immediately began to run more smoothly, and the Ohioan quickly demonstrated that he was the right man in the right place. A man of intense vigor, capable of enduring prolonged mental and physical strain, possessed of unusual ability as an organizer, and always scrupulously honest and just, Stanton conducted the business of the war department with energy and determination. Throughout the bloody contest for supremacy at the head of the most important branch of the government, after Lincoln was assassinated Stanton was retained in his post by President Johnson, but bitter quarrels soon resulted

from this association. President Johnson's plan of reconstruction was intensely displeasing to Stanton, and he did not hesitate to say so in so many words. Johnson demanded his resignation in 1867, but Stanton refused to comply with the request, and surrendered his office under protest to Gen. Grant as Secretary ad interim. Stanton was reinstated by the Senate, but the President appointed another man to the place, and Johnson's impeachment was the result. In 1869 Stanton was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Grant, but he died before taking his seat.

It is only in novels that men find their way into the conservatory. In real life the place to look for men is the dining room.

An aged colored woman who did not claim to be more than one hundred years old would attract some attention.

Unless it is something that needs to be done you can safely trust the people to do it.

The case of the Peoria woman who has sued her husband for maintenance arouses Eph Wiley's indignation. Eph says the women of this country have reached the point where they ask too much.

NO CONCLUSIONS DRAWN. The evangelist at last night from the subject, "A Man Not Big Enough for His Job." The city officials attended in a body. No conclusions will be drawn.

BOOSTING MORGANTOWN. The Morgantown New Dominion comes to us in very greatly enlarged form, containing an industrial and Christmas edition in one issue.

The business enterprises of the modern Athens are elaborately treated with text and pictures and no small feature of the edition are the likenesses of the good looking business and professional men with whom Morgantown seems to be greatly favored.

The management of the New Dominion is ever alert to the post business interests of its enterprise and that of the city it so will serves. The advantages of Morgantown are certainly made to appear most attractive by the publication of the industrial member.

## State Editors

Former Governor Dawson, who is now a member of the State Board of Control of West Virginia, is quoted as being in favor of providing a separate institution for the hopelessly insane and those mentally defective wards of the state who are merely feeble-minded or insane at times. This would be a wise thing, but a more important division is the separation of the blind from the deaf. These two classes of children are kept in the same institution at Romney, and experience has shown that it is an unsatisfactory method of caring for them. There is nothing in common between the blind and the deaf—the contrary, there is an almost instinctive antagonism between them, and under present conditions neither receive the care that they ought to have. Provision should be made at the next session of the legislature for their maintenance in separate institutions.—Shepherdstown Register.

## REMEMBER THE FEATHERED SUFFERERS.

The birds need food. The bird cannot get food when the earth is covered with snow. It is therefore your duty, in seasons like this, to furnish food to the birds. Clear a patch near your window and deposit some bread or other food where chick-a-dee can get it. The sight of the way they will dash to and from that little bare spot of earth will fully repay you for the trouble that the enterprise costs.—Fayette Tribune.

## WHY SPENCER STANDS A SHOW. GET THE LEAST WHEN IT IS MOST NEEDED.

If West Virginia was not called upon to supply the universe with natural gas, maybe we would have enough when we really needed it.—Parkersburg Sentinel.

## UPS AND DOWNS IN CHARLESTON

Ferec Bedell, after many ups and downs, is down and out as Mayor of Charleston. Obe Petty, after many ups and downs as a politician, is up, and is now Mayor of Charleston. But the world is young yet, and Ferec may take heart. Stranger things have happened than that, on his way up again, should pass Obe coming down. You never can tell in politics. Particularly in Charleston.—Huntington Herald-Dispatch.

## Luke McLuke

(From Cincinnati Enquirer.)

It is getting hard to bunk the American public with new medicines. If Dr. Friedman had brought over a brand new religion he would be on easy street by this time. Those new "mummy" sleeves will never make a hit. They are so light that girl can't raise her arm. How is she going to keep her nose from shining? This time next month the girls will be digging out summer raiment and the old exhibition of funny elbows and soup bones will begin. It takes all kinds of men to make a world. And one kind is so busy saving cigarette coupons that it can't earn more than \$10 per week. If some men are born with silver spoons in their mouths it is a pinch that some others are born with a

ble knives in their facial openings. Every girl who uses powder uses too much of it. Some girls will save up for weeks to get an ounce of fashionable perfume. When what they need is a pound bar of unfashionable soap.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

By O. Terence.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, Chief Justice of Canada and Deputy Governor General, was born in Quebec sixty-one years ago today. Sir Charles began his legal career in 1876, after graduating from Laval University. He first came into international prominence in 1885 as chief counsel for Louis Riel, the insurgent leader, who sought to found a half-breed "republic" in Western Canada. The case was bitterly contested and divided the people of the Dominion into warring camps, the Catholics and French-Canadians demanding that the rebel be freed. Sir Charles—although he was not "Sir" then—waged a brilliant legal battle in behalf of Riel, but the insurgent chief was convicted and executed. Sir Charles was knighted in 1907, soon after his elevation to the supreme bench. He had previously served the Dominion government as Minister of Justice and Solicitor General. The Canadian jurist was the chief speaker at the American Bar Association's convention in Washington last October. In his address he declared that Canada was proud of being a part of the British Empire, which, he said, "keeps sacred its covenants and maintains its pledged word. He criticized the German colonial system, declaring that the colonists in German Africa are "checked at every turn by official limitation." In describing Canada's relation to the empire, he said: "We recognize no inferiority in ourselves, nor in our political position, to the Englishman or the Scotchman, and what little check the colonial relationship puts upon us is offset by our pride in the glorious history of Britain."

## Just Smiles

Cruel and Unusual.

She had been visiting her sister there, but was called home by an accident that happened to her mother. The latter slipped and injured her somewhat.—Palo Alto (la.) Reporter.

The White Horse Fad.

The white horse came to town last spring. With all its clockwork showy; Each hobble skirt that gave a fling, Revealed the stockings snowy. And when the stockings all were hung From Oskosh to the Isthmus, It needs no real prophetic tongue, To promise a white Christmas. —New York Mail.

There Was a Sound of Revelry in Douglas, Ariz.

Indeed some of the gowns were most exquisitely decollete, making a wonderful picture of color and softness.—Arizona Dispatch.

Guess That'll Hold Her.

This office is in receipt of an anonymous letter giving the editor a rare good dressing down, which is, beyond doubt, richly deserved. We can't all be perfect, and the editor of this paper cannot remember ever to have claimed that enviable distinction. On the other hand—and somewhat to his credit—he cannot remember ever to have written anyone an anonymous letter. And there YOU are, old girl.—Newhall (la.) News.

## Current Comment

## THE COST OF GOVERNMENT, TOO

The comparative statement issued by the Department of the Census showing the growth of the cost of national and State government in the past decade will be somewhat staggering to those who have not observed closely the trend in this regard. The payments of the Federal Government have increased 59 per cent between 1903 and 1913, but, great as this addition has been, it has been exceeded by the growth of the cost of State government, which has increased in that time more than 88 per cent. And probably if the comparative figures were available for municipal expenditures an even larger increase would be shown in that field.

Allowances must, of course, be made for a considerable portion of these increases being due to the natural too, has been caused by the extension of Government agencies into new fields. The addition of commissions and boards and bureaus and departments under new demands upon the public treasury. The finances of the States are in somewhat better shape than 11 years ago because while 16 states then had payments exceeding income, but 13 are in that condition now. While the cost per capita for State government ranges from \$10.45 in Nevada to \$1.46 in the Carolinas, the bulk of the States including Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, run between \$2 and \$4 per capita. The cost of State government for the nation as a whole is about one-half that of the cost of Federal Government, but the total payments for cities over 20,000 in population almost equals the total payments by the national Government, making an aggregate for nation, State and city of over \$4,000,000,000. The high cost of living is matched by the increased cost of government which itself is no inconsiderable factor in increasing the cost of living.—Eftsburgh Dispatch.

## THE BENEFICIARY.

(From the Birmingham Age-Herald.) "Does Dr. Pillers enjoy a large practice?" "No. He has to work so hard he can't have time to enjoy anything.

## Christmas Will Soon Be Here.

Christmas will soon be here. Why not buy a useful present? You will be able to find them in our line of Gents Wearing Apparel. Pay us a visit before buying. OPEN OF EVENINGS.

## R. GILKESON

"That Totally Different Shop."

Tailor, Clothier and Furnisher . . . 107 Main Street

## CHRISTMAS WISDOM.

Consider the wisdom of giving something substantial and lasting for Christmas—something which increases in value each year—that is an account with the First National Bank.

Now is a good time to come in and start an account for any member of the family.

## First National Bank OF FAIRMONT

## LITTLE BOBBIE'S PA

By William F. Kirk

There was a yung lady post calm up to the house last nite to se Ma. Her Ma knew my Ma out West. Her name is Inez Casey, but she toald Pa & Ma that wen she rote a poem & had it printed in a magazine she always signed her name Dolores Edgerton.

I am glad yure husband is hoam to nite, she sed to Ma. I have sum verses here that I did so want him to hear. I am glad I am here, then, sed Pa. He sed it the same as I have often herd hi tell the barber, all rite, I will wait. The first poem wich I am going to read to you, sez Inez Casey, is called Drifting.

That is a good title, sed Pa. Let her drift. & this is the poem wich she recited:

## DRIFTING

Drifting forever thru the world are we, Floating thru space, no mater how we try To stay our course; we cannot do that thing Moar than a fly paper can lose a fly. & yet, while we are drifting on our way If we shud meet with sum grand luv & know The perfect blissfulness of ideal bliss We wud moar gladly & sublimely drift. Isent that butiful? sed Ma. That is certingly drifting sum, sed Pa. It must be grand to be abel to express yureself so fine that nobody can

understand the buty of yure lines except yureself. I guess the trubbel with all the poems I ever rote, sed Pa. Is that I made them too plane & easy to understand. Here is just one moar that I want you to hear, sed Inez Casey. The name of this one is

## MEMORIES

Oh, memories, sweet memories, Upon you I do love to dwell & see the sunset in the skies Above them hills I loved so well. The face of my brave sweetheart Which went away to war Is one of them sweet memories That I am longing for. But ah sum other memories Can hold me in thare clutch, And when they linger in my mind They distress me very much.

I am very fond of that speshul poem, sed Inez Casey. It has sumthing haunting about it. It is a kind of haunting thing, I admit, sed Pa. Tell me, he sed, how did you happen to discover that you were a poet?

It was a mere accident, sed Inez. I won a prize at skool for riting the best verse about a treeloot, & ever since then I have been riting verses. It was a lucky day for me, she sed. Yes, sed Pa, and it was a tuld day for the general public.

## Song and Story

## Playing Safe.

A man who, with his wife is employed on a truck farm in New Jersey, found himself in a bad predicament, when, in attempting to evade the on-slaughts of a savage dog, assistance came in the shape of his wife. When the woman came up the dog had fastened his teeth in the calf of her husband's leg and was holding on for dear life. Seizing a stone in the road the man's wife was about to hurl it, when the husband, with wonderful presence of mind, shouted: "Mary! Mary! Don't throw the stone at the dog. Throw it at me!"

## A Democratic Army.

H. E. Gresham, the British counsel to Cleveland, said the other day: "In the British volunteer army a democratic spirit prevails even among the most aristocratic regiments. 'It is said that a company of the sportsmen's regiment was being drilled at New Forest. The sergeant, an elderly stableman, said to one of the young recruits who happened to be the brother of an earl: "Head up, Montague! (So he pronounced the name.) 'Head up, chest out, shoulders back!'" "My name isn't Montague—it's Montague," said the young man. "Very good, Montague," said the sergeant. "For speaking up like that you can just do four days' fatigue."—Washington Star.

## Luck.

"Have any luck on your deer hunting trip?" "Yes, I got back alive!"—Detroit Free Press. Substitute Accepted. Actor (playing Richard III):—"A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!" Ride Auditor—Wouldn't a jackass do as well. Actor—Certainly! Come around to the stage door at once.—Boston Transcript.

## Luscious Candy For Christmas

Mary Garden and Martha Washington Chocolates and Bon Bona are truly luscious for they represent the quintessence of the best fruit flavors. A fine assortment of Christmas Candies, Chocolates and Bon Bona in one pound to five pound boxes, or special quantities. Order these good candies now and enhance the Christmas spirit or good cheer.

MARTHA WASHINGTON CANDIES . . . . . 50c per lb.

MARY GARDEN CANDIES . . . . . \$1 per lb.

## CRANE'S Drug Store